

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1           1.       An airplane guidance method involving an inertial reference system and a  
2       GPS landing system, the airplane guidance method comprising:  
3                    converting position coordinates of an aircraft from the inertial reference  
4       system to runway, lateral, and vertical coordinates;  
5                    calibrating runway distance and lateral distance based on the converted  
6       position coordinates from the inertial reference system using runway distance and lateral  
7       distance from the GPS landing system with a third-order calibration filter when the  
8       aircraft is below a first height above terrain;  
9                    calibrating vertical distance based on the converted position coordinates  
10      from the inertial reference system using vertical distance from the GPS landing system  
11      with a second-order calibration filter when the aircraft is below the first height above  
12      terrain; and  
13                    using the calibrated runway, lateral, and vertical distances for deviation  
14      computations when GPS signals are interrupted below a second height above terrain.

1           2.       The method of claim 1, further comprising determining a reference  
2       trajectory, the reference trajectory including horizontal and vertical positions, for the  
3       inertial reference system computed with velocity from the inertial reference system and  
4       initial position from the GPS landing system.

1           3.       The method of claim 1, wherein the first height is 1500 feet.

1           4.       The method of claim 1, wherein the third-order calibration filter converges  
2       when an error signal is within 0.15m for 30 seconds.

1           5.       The method of claim 1, wherein the second-order calibration filter  
2       converges when an error signal is within 0.2m for 30 seconds.

1           6.       The method of claim 1, further comprising generating airplane control  
2       signals based on the deviation computations.

1           7.     The method of claim 1, wherein the GPS landing system comprises a  
2 ground station for generating differential global positioning system information.

1           8.     The method of claim 1, wherein the velocity error state of the third-order  
2 calibration filter is initialized by velocity difference between velocity measurements in  
3 the GPS landing system and the inertial reference system.

1           9.     The method of claim 1, further comprising buffering values from the GPS  
2 landing system and the inertial reference system before processing to ensure data  
3 integrity.

1           10.    A method of deriving inertial-aided deviations for autoland systems during  
2 GPS signal interruptions, the method comprising:  
3                   generating global positioning positions;  
4                   generating inertial reference system positions; and  
5                   generating calibrated positions based on the global positioning positions  
6 and the inertial reference system positions using a third-order calibration filter and a  
7 second-order calibration filter.

1           11.    The method of claim 10, wherein the calibrated positions comprise  
2 runway distance, lateral distance, and aircraft height.

1           12.    The method of claim 10, wherein a velocity error state of the third-order  
2 calibration filter is initialized by velocity difference between velocity measurements in a  
3 GPS landing system and an inertial reference system.

1           13.    The method of claim 10, further comprising providing airplane control  
2 signals using deviation computations from the generated calibrated positions when the  
3 calibration filters converge.

1           14.    The method of claim 13, wherein the third-order calibration filter  
2 converges when an error signal is within 0.15m for 30 seconds.

1           15.    The method of claim 13, wherein the second-order calibration filter  
2 converges when an error signal is within 0.2m for 30 seconds.

1           16.    The method of claim 13, wherein the airplane control signals are provided  
2 using deviation computation when GPS signals are interrupted.

3           17.    The method of claim 16, wherein aircraft height is 200 feet or less.

1           18.    A system for deriving inertial-aided deviations for autoland systems  
2 during GPS signal interruptions, the system comprising:  
3                   a first component for generating global positioning positions;  
4                   a second component for generating inertial reference system positions;  
5                   a third component for generating calibrated positions based on the global  
6 positioning positions and the inertial reference system positions using a third-order  
7 calibration filter and a second-order calibration filter; and  
8                   a fourth component for providing airplane control signals using deviation  
9 computations from the generated calibrated positions when the calibration filters  
10 converge.

1           19.    The system of claim 18, wherein the third-order calibration filter  
2 converges when an error signal is within 0.15m for 30 seconds; and wherein the second-  
3 order calibration filter converges when an error signal is within 0.2m for 30 seconds.

1           20.    The system of claim 18, wherein the airplane control signals are provided  
2 using deviation computation when GPS signals are interrupted.